

AUTOMATED SYSTEM FOR MANAGING DRAWING NUMBERS

ABSTRACT

A computer-based drawing number system is provided that coordinates the request for information about drawing numbers, the issuance of new blocks of drawing numbers, and searches for drawing numbers. The drawing number system may include an exact number component, a search component, an update component, an issue block component, a web engine component, a server engine component, and a variety of databases. The exact number search component may be used to search for information about a particular drawing number, and the search component may be used to search for drawing numbers when the exact number is not known. The issue block component may be used to issue the next available block of drawing numbers to a requestor. The drawing number system may accommodate other types of document numbers besides drawing numbers. The drawing number system may be implemented in a client/server environment, such as a web-based environment over the Internet. In such an environment, a web server provides the various components of the drawing number system.